

Public Law 99-33  
99th Congress

Joint Resolution

To designate May 6, 1985, as "Dr. Jonas E. Salk Day".

May 14, 1985

[H.J. Res. 258]

Whereas Dr. Jonas E. Salk discovered the first effective vaccine against poliomyelitis that was approved for widespread use in 1955 and was awarded a congressional gold medal for the discovery;

Whereas poliomyelitis epidemics were a fact of life in the United States before the Salk vaccine was discovered;

Whereas during the most severe epidemic of poliomyelitis, which occurred in 1952, 57,626 persons were stricken with the disease and 3,330 persons died;

Whereas the incidence of poliomyelitis in the United States was reduced by 97 percent through the use of the Salk vaccine before another effective vaccine against the disease was discovered;

Whereas Dr. Salk still serves the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, which he founded in 1963, as a distinguished professor of international health sciences;

Whereas the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, under the leadership of Dr. Salk, has earned a reputation for being in the vanguard of basic biological research on molecular-cellular mechanisms in genetics, immunology, and neurobiology;

Whereas on May 6, 1985, the City University of New York will host a dinner to honor Dr. Salk, who is a graduate of the City College of New York, and to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the licensing of the Salk vaccine for public use;

Whereas the proceeds from the honorary dinner for Dr. Salk will be used to support the Jonas E. Salk Scholarships for Medical Study; and

Whereas the historic achievement of Dr. Salk deserves recognition: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That May 6, 1985, hereby is designated "Dr. Jonas E. Salk Day", and the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.*

Approved May 14, 1985.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.J. Res. 258 (S.J. Res. 123):

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 131 (1985):

May 2, considered and passed House.

May 3, considered and passed Senate.